IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: :

Kothuri et al.   :   Attorney Docket: 19111.0035

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Serial No.: to be assigned   :   Art unit: to be assigned

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Filed: herewith   :   Examiner: to be assigned

Title: .NEAREST NEIGHBOR QUERY PROCESSING IN A LINEAR QUADTREE SPATIAL INDEX

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

    Please amend the claims as follows:

    [6] 5. The method according to claim 3, further comprising removing duplicate

neighbors from the result.

    [7] 6. The method according to claim 3, further comprising:

    retaining only the target number of neighbors if more than the target number of neighbors

is found and terminating the searching process.

    [8] 7. A method for locating neighbor objects of a query object in a database, the method

comprising: